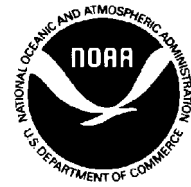


2003 STOCK ASSESSMENT AND FISHERY EVALUATION FOR ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service



2003 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

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Dealer Permits:

Tuna dealer permits are issued out of the Northeast Regional Office of NOAA Fisheries (978-281-9370), shark and swordfish dealer permits are issued out of the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office (727-570-5326).

Charter/Headboat Permits, Atlantic Tuna Permits & Recreational HMS Vessel Permits:

Questions regarding the Charter/Headboat permit, the Atlantic tunas permit, or recreational HMS vessel permit processes should be directed to Aquilent Customer Service at (888) 872-8862, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time. Fishermen may also listen to or view updates to the regulations via the toll-free automated telephone system or the website (www.nmfspermits.com).

Atlantic Shark and Swordfish Permits:

Questions regarding renewals or transfers of shark and swordfish limited access permits should be directed to the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office (727-570-5326).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report provides a summary of the best available scientific information on the condition of stocks, marine ecosystems, and fisheries being managed under federal regulation. Consistent with the guidelines for National Standard 2 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the SAFE report is prepared annually and used as a reference in the evaluation and refinement of fisheries management practices. The report updates the data necessary to determine appropriate annual harvest levels, documents significant trends in the resource, marine ecosystems, and fisheries over time, and identifies associated bycatch and safety issues. Through a comprehensive annual update of key biological, economic, and social indicators, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) can ensure use of the best available scientific data in its decision making process.

The 2003 SAFE report for Highly Migratory Species (HMS) includes the latest stock assessment data, recommendations, and resolutions from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and their Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) through December 2002. The report further contains the latest domestic shark stock assessment data. The report is divided into the following ten sections: Introduction; Stock Assessment Update; Essential Fish Habitat; Fishery Data Update; Economic Status of HMS Fisheries; Community and Social Data Update; Fish Processing, Industry and Trade; Bycatch; HMS Permits; and Issues for Consideration and Outlook.

Stock Assessment Update

In 2002, the SCRS conducted new stock assessments for bigeye tuna, East Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna, western Atlantic bluefin tuna, North and South Atlantic swordfish, and white marlin. Eastern and western Atlantic bluefin tuna, North Atlantic Albacore, Atlantic blue and white marlin, West Atlantic sailfish, and North Atlantic swordfish remain overfished, and bigeye tuna may be overfished. It should be noted that North Atlantic swordfish stocks have made significant progress toward rebuilding. Yellowfin tuna and South Atlantic swordfish are considered fully fished.

Also in 2002, the United States conducted stock assessments on Atlantic large and small coastal sharks. The large coastal shark (LCS) stock assessment indicated that, in aggregate, the complex is overfished and overfishing is occurring. The assessment further indicated that sandbar sharks are no longer overfished (although they have not reached optimum yield), but continue to experience overfishing. A determination was made that blacktip sharks are neither overfished nor experiencing overfishing. The small coastal shark (SCS) stock assessment determined that the SCS complex is not overfished as a whole, but did indicate that overfishing is occurring for finetooth sharks. NOAA Fisheries must now reduce fishing mortality for finetooth sharks.

Essential Fish Habitat

Several joint federal/state surveys of shark nursery and pupping grounds along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts were described in papers released during 2002. Also, the second phase of an investigation focused on Atlantic blue marlin spawning and nursery habitat utilization was implemented in 2002 with considerable success. Programs to track movements of adult and juvenile Atlantic bluefin tuna utilizing pop-up tags, archival tags, and ultrasonic depth-sensitive transmitters continued in 2002.

Fishery Data Update

There are multiple sources of information concerning HMS fisheries, including mandatory commercial and recreational permits, observer reports, mandatory logbook reporting in some fisheries, dealer reports, recreational surveys and reporting requirements, and an HMS tournament database. In this document, data are analyzed by gear type to more easily assess the implications for each these multi-species fisheries. Some of the more important developments regarding fishery data from 2002 are:

- Northeast distant statistical area pelagic longline experimental fishery
- HMS Angling Category permits requirement
- Continuation of HMS tournament registration
- Vessel monitoring systems
- Shark emergency rule and notice of intent to amend shark regulations
- LCS and SCS stock assessments
- New ICCAT assessments of a number of species
- HMS vessel logbook and cost-earnings reporting

Economic Status of HMS Fisheries

The 2003 SAFE report includes a section on the economic status of commercial and recreational HMS fisheries. Prior to 2002, this information was presented in association with various gear types, but the 2002 and 2003 reports combine all available economic information into one section, including: production (U.S. and international); ex-vessel prices; wholesale prices; fishing costs and revenues for commercial fisheries; costs and revenues for dealers; recreational fishing; and charter/headboat fisheries. In addition, this section provides a review of

selected rules that had, or are expected to have, a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Community and Social Data Update

Analyses relative to National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act rely heavily on the availability of community studies and profiles. As HMS are highly migratory resources by definition, fishermen often tend to shift locations in an attempt to follow the fish. The inclusion of typical community profiles in HMS management decisions is somewhat difficult and continued social and community studies to identify the participants in these fisheries are of great importance. This section of the SAFE report includes an overview of current information and provides a summary of new research, including a social and economic examination of the fishing ports and coastal counties along the mid-Atlantic coast. This section also provides a summary of expected community and social impacts of agency actions completed during 2002.

Fish Processing, Industry and Trade

Domestic and international consumer preference continues to play a large role in HMS markets. The Fish Processing, Industry and Trade section provides an overview of U.S. trade activities relative to HMS, required documentation, and summaries of U.S. imports and exports of HMS products. Bluefin tuna trade remains strictly monitored through use of the Bluefin Statistical Document program. Sharks and shark products continue to be an important export, although the nature of reporting is much less detailed than that used for bluefin tuna. Swordfish are an important import into the United States, as indicated by data collected through the Swordfish Import Monitoring Program. Consistent with ICCAT recommendations, the United States is currently working toward implementation of a swordfish and bigeye tuna statistical document. The use of trade data to supplement existing information sources is an new important tool in the monitoring and management of HMS.

Bycatch

Bycatch and bycatch mortality of finfish, and incidental catches and fishing-induced mortality of marine mammals, sea turtles, and seabirds continue to be issues of great concern in the management of HMS. NOAA Fisheries and commercial fishermen conducted research in the pelagic longline fishery to address sea turtle interactions during 2002 to ensure compliance with the HMS FMP and a recent Biological Opinion (BO) on HMS fisheries. NOAA Fisheries is currently evaluating the efficacy of recently implemented time-area closures in the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico intended to reduce bycatch and discards in the pelagic longline fishery. In an effort to minimize discards of bluefin tuna, NOAA Fisheries has recently proposed to modify minimum target catch requirements for Atlantic bluefin tuna caught incidentally to pelagic longlining activities (67 FR 78404, December 24, 2002). To better account for bycatch mortality in the fishery for Atlantic sharks, NOAA Fisheries reinstated the requirement to count dead

discards against commercial quotas as of January 1, 2003. A particularly challenging aspect of effectively addressing bycatch issues in HMS fisheries is the international component. The United States continues to work through ICCAT to address bycatch issues on an Atlantic-wide basis.

HMS Permits

NOAA Fisheries continues to explore effective and equitable means to address overcapitalization problems. As of October 2002, there were 627 total shark permit holders (directed, incidental), 409 total swordfish permit holders (directed, incidental, handgear), and 226 current tuna pelagic longline permit holders. However, those participating in the directed swordfish fishery must also possess a limited access shark permit and a tuna pelagic longline permit, so the cumulative number of permits does not reflect the actual number of participants. This section provides additional management actions that may be considered to further reduce the number of permits, if deemed necessary. Options for upgrading and safety issues are also discussed.

NOAA Fisheries has made significant improvements to its Atlantic tunas permitting system, including a website where constituents can purchase and renew permits for Atlantic tunas, update permit information, and report recreational landings of bluefin tuna (www.nmfspermits.com). Increasing the level of automation in the permitting process as well as the methods of renewal (i.e., phone, fax, internet) is expected to improve constituent satisfaction and reduce administrative costs. NOAA Fisheries hopes to build upon this success and consider automating other HMS permitting processes in the future.

Issues for Consideration and Outlook

In 2003, NOAA Fisheries plans to continue implementing and evaluating the FMP measures in an attempt to rebuild stocks, address overfishing, and eliminate overcapitalization problems that affect many HMS fisheries. The HMS Management Division expects to implement VMS requirements for Atlantic pelagic longline vessels, and finalize decision-making regarding bluefin tuna incidental catch landing requirements. The agency anticipates finalizing statistical documents for bigeye tuna and swordfish to comply with international obligations. The HMS Management Division further expects to conduct in-depth examinations of, and potentially undertake rulemaking regarding, Atlantic bluefin tuna allocations, the start date for Atlantic bluefin tuna purse seine fishery, and an HMS FMP amendment regarding Atlantic sharks. In the longer-term, NOAA Fisheries intends to move forward with the collection of information, evaluation, and planning for a number of other issues including consideration for the need to update or redesignate EFH for HMS, possible extension of NED experimental measures to minimize sea turtle interactions, evaluating novel fishing gears and techniques, improving and expanding observer programs, amending the regulations pertaining to limited access permits and expanding the selection process for vessel logbook and cost earnings reporting. The HMS Management Division will also seek to improve constituent services and ease reporting burdens

by designing and implementing web-based tournament registration and both tournament and non-tournament reporting.

The 2003 HMS Advisory Panel meeting provides an excellent opportunity to discuss these and other issues raised in the SAFE report which may require further action. Through continuous public and constituent interaction, increased monitoring, ongoing life history work, and additional socio-economic assessment, NOAA Fisheries strives to continue building sustainable fisheries for all Atlantic HMS.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) establishes a long-range, transparent, and inclusive process to sustainably manage the fisheries of the United States. The fishery management plan (FMP) is the primary management instrument established by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. A component of both the *Final Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, Sharks* (HMS FMP) and *Amendment One to the Atlantic Billfish Fishery Management Plan* (Billfish Amendment) is the production of an annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report. The SAFE report provides a summary of the best available scientific information on the condition of stocks, marine ecosystems, and fisheries being managed under federal regulation. It also provides updated information regarding the economic status of fisheries, fishing communities, and industries, as well as the socio-economic impacts of recently implemented regulations. Consistent with the guidelines for National Standard 2 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the SAFE report is prepared annually and used as a reference in the evaluation and refinement of fisheries management practices. The report updates the data necessary to determine appropriate annual harvest levels, documents significant trends in the resource, marine ecosystems, and fisheries over time, and identifies associated bycatch and safety issues. Through a comprehensive annual update of key biological, economic, and social indicators, NOAA Fisheries can ensure use of the best available scientific data in its decision making process.

The 2003 SAFE report for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species is a vehicle to introduce new information, identify additional management issues that may need to be addressed, and begin preliminary assessment and evaluation of the fishery regulations. The SAFE report includes the latest stock assessment data, recommendations, and resolutions from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and their Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS). The report also includes the latest domestic shark assessment information. In compliance with National Standard 2 guidelines, the report presents a comprehensive summary of the most recent Atlantic HMS fisheries-related data from a variety of sources across a wide range of disciplines. In addition, the current information is contrasted with previous years' data to highlight important trends and concerns for future management.

The SAFE report is divided into ten sections, including: Introduction; Stock Assessment Update; Essential Fish Habitat; Fishery Data Update; Economic Status of HMS Fisheries; Community and Social Data Update; Fish Processing, Industry and Trade; Bycatch; HMS Permits; and Issues for Consideration and Outlook. The structure of the SAFE report is designed to provide a cohesive view of new information and present it in a format that is easily accessible to managers, HMS and Billfish Advisory Panel members, and the public.

1.1 Update on HMS Management Division Activities During 2002

The year 2002 was very active for the HMS Management Division, with several significant

actions completed during this year. On April 1-3, 2002, a combined HMS and Billfish Advisory Panel meeting was held in Silver Spring, Maryland. These panels provided valuable comments on a suite of management actions considered during calendar year 2002. A partial list of discussion topics included the following:

- Longline incidental bluefin tuna (BFT) catch limits
Observer Issues
- Charter/Headboat permitting issues
- Recreational HMS permitting issues
- Northeast Distant Statistical Area experimental fishery
- Recreational swordfish fishery
- Enhanced monitoring of recreational billfish fishery to ensure compliance with the ICCAT marlin landings cap
- Bycatch
- Advisory panel operating plan
- Draft compliance guide of all HMS regulations

Numerous Atlantic tuna actions were completed during 2002, with most relating to bluefin tuna, including annual quota specifications, season closure and opening notices, in-season transfers in quota distribution, and adjustments to Angling and General category retention limits. NOAA Fisheries published a final rule to clarify certain provisions pertaining to the definition and operations of HMS Charter/Headboat permitted vessels as well as requiring an Atlantic HMS recreational permit which will be effective March 1, 2003 (67 FR 77434, December 18, 2002). NOAA Fisheries also published a proposed rule to reduce discards of BFT in the Atlantic pelagic longline fishery (67 FR 78404, December 24, 2002).

NOAA Fisheries finalized a number of rules pertaining to swordfish during 2002 and early 2003. NOAA Fisheries implemented a rule (67 FR 70023, November 20, 2002) facilitating a one time transfer of up to 400 metric tons (mt) to Japan per ICCAT recommendation, and established a reserve quota for North Atlantic swordfish. In addition, NOAA Fisheries corrected trade restrictions to facilitate the enforcement of the swordfish dead discard allowance and better monitor the importation of swordfish from designated countries. In January 2003, NOAA Fisheries implemented a rule (68 FR 711, January 7, 2003) mandating reporting of recreationally caught Atlantic billfish and North Atlantic swordfish, established a recreational retention limit for

North Atlantic swordfish, and added handlines as an authorized gear for the North Atlantic swordfish fishery.

In response to receiving a petition to list the Atlantic white marlin as endangered or threatened throughout its range, and to designate critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in September of 2001, NOAA Fisheries convened a status review team (SRT) of experts in pelagic fish biology, fisheries management, and fisheries stock assessment. The SRT was requested to assess the species status and the degree of threat to the species in the context of the listing criteria provided by the ESA. The SRT summarized all available biological information on white marlin and conducted analyses to predict population trends under various scenarios. The status review document prepared by the SRT contains a summary of the information they assembled and constitutes the best available scientific, commercial, and recreational data on Atlantic white marlin. The document addresses the status of the species, the five ESA listing factors, and the effect of efforts underway to protect the species. NOAA Fisheries also conducted a number of public meetings to solicit information from the public about the status of white marlin during the status review process.

After reviewing the best scientific and commercial information available and the effects of current conservation efforts, on September 3, 2002, NOAA Fisheries determined that listing Atlantic white marlin as either threatened or endangered under ESA was not warranted at that time. The best available information indicated that the Atlantic white marlin population has declined greatly, but did not fall to levels that merited ESA protection. NOAA Fisheries added Atlantic white marlin to the ESA list of “candidate species of concern” and will reevaluate the need for ESA protection of Atlantic white marlin in 2007.

In 2002, pending new stock assessments, the large and small coastal shark commercial quotas were maintained at the 1997 levels via an emergency rule (66 FR 67118, December 28, 2001; extension 67 FR 37354, May 29, 2001). On May 8, 2002, NOAA Fisheries announced the availability of the first small coastal shark stock assessment since 1992 (67 FR 30879). Additionally, after conducting extensive sensitivity analyses and modeling on older data sets (67 FR 36858, May 28, 2002), NOAA Fisheries held a shark evaluation workshop that led to a new large coastal shark stock assessment (67 FR 64098, October 17, 2002). This large coastal shark stock assessment was subsequently peer reviewed. Based on these new stock assessments, NOAA Fisheries announced its intent to amend the portions of HMS FMP regarding shark management (67 FR 69180, November 15, 2002). In December 2002, NOAA Fisheries implemented an emergency rule that implemented large and small coastal shark commercial management measures based on the results of the new stock assessments pending the amendment to the HMS FMP (67 FR 78990, December 27, 2002). Four public hearings are planned to collect comments on the emergency rule (68 FR 1024, January 8, 2003).

Additionally, in 2002, NOAA Fisheries finalized regulations based on the Shark Finning Prohibition Act (67 FR 6194, February 11, 2002). Also, several applications for Exempted

Fishing Permits for capturing sharks for public display were received during the year (see Section 9 of this document for further information) and NOAA Fisheries published a proposed rule that would improve monitoring of exempted fishing activities, including those relating to the collection of sharks for display purposes (67 FR72629, December 6, 2002). In January 2002, NOAA Fisheries converted the voluntary shark bottom longline observer program to a mandatory program to ensure adequate observer coverage.

Outside of NOAA Fisheries, there were two stock assessment related documents that were partially funded by NOAA Fisheries; a small coastal shark stock assessment conducted by Mote Marine Laboratories and the University of Florida and a status review of the dusky shark by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. There were also some international meetings related to shark management. At the 2002 meeting of parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), whale and basking sharks were listed under Appendix II. There was also an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum shark workshop in Mexico in December 2002.

In 2002, there were eight active lawsuits related to the Atlantic HMS fisheries. NOAA Fisheries received favorable rulings in six of the cases, which related to spotter aircraft in the bluefin tuna fishery, closure of the northeast distant statistical area to protect sea turtles, vessel monitoring systems for Atlantic pelagic longline vessels, the swordfish drift gillnet ban, limited access, and bycatch regulations under the 1999 HMS FMP. Plaintiffs filed an appeal in the spotter aircraft case. Pending cases involve challenges related to Atlantic shark management measures and western bluefin tuna rebuilding.

1.2 2002 Accomplishments of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

Information in this section was summarized from the ICCAT Committee Chairman's Memo: Summary of the 2002 ICCAT Meeting.

The following summarizes the major actions taken at the 2002 ICCAT meetings held October 28 - November 04, 2002, in Bilbao, Spain.

Atlantic Tunas

ICCAT chose to increase the total allowable catch (TAC) of western Atlantic bluefin tuna by 200 mt to 2700 mt and provided the nation of Mexico, a new ICCAT contacting party, with 25 mt for bycatch in its yellowfin tuna fishery. The prior U.S. quota share of 1,387 mt was increased by 102.6 mt for 2003 and 2004. Despite U.S. concerns regarding eastern Atlantic/Mediterranean catches, ICCAT chose to establish a TAC of 32,000 for the period 2003-2006. This is significantly above SCRS advice that catches of 26,000 mt or more were not sustainable in the long-term. ICCAT adopted regulations to better protect juvenile bluefin tuna including increasing

the minimum size limit in the Mediterranean and decreasing the tolerance for undersized fish from 15 percent to 10 percent. ICCAT also adopted a recommendation that requires improved reporting of bluefin tuna farming activities. Bigeye tuna and northern albacore tuna catch limits were little changed, as was the catch limit for southern albacore.

Atlantic Swordfish

The United States sought to maintain the integrity of the international rebuilding program for North Atlantic swordfish, while allowing for a slight increase in the total allowable catch (above the 2002 level of 10,400 mt) to accommodate new ICCAT members. Despite U.S. concerns, ICCAT chose to establish a higher TAC of 14,000 mt, which lies at the outer bounds of scientific advice. The U.S. portion of the quota increased approximately 1.5 percent to 30.49 percent, raising the 2003 U.S. quota to 3877 mt and providing an additional 80 mt discard allowance. For 2004 and 2005, the U.S. quota is 3807 with no dead discard allowance. To assist Japan in repaying its North Atlantic swordfish quota overage, the recommendation also allows Japan to count up to 400 mt of swordfish taken from a specific area of the North Atlantic against its uncaught South Atlantic quota, and established another five year (2002-2005) quota block. TACs above SCRS recommendations were established for South Atlantic swordfish for the period 2003-2006. The U.S. catch limit for South Atlantic swordfish was reduced from 384 mt to 100 mt for 2003-2005, and 120 mt for 2006. Importantly, only the United States and Japan are permitted to carry forward quota underages of South Atlantic swordfish. The United States is also allowed to count up to 200 mt of swordfish caught south of the north-south management boundary (between five degrees North latitude and five degrees South latitude) against its North Atlantic swordfish quota (ICCAT Recommendation 02/02).

Atlantic Marlins

Phase one of the Atlantic marlin mortality reduction plan was extended through 2005. The critical elements of phase one include: 1) reducing commercial landings of white marlin and blue marlin by 67 percent and 50 percent, respectively, from 1999 or 1996 landings levels, whichever was higher; 2) release of all live marlin taken as bycatch in commercial fisheries, but allowing landing of marlin killed if they are not entered into commerce; 3) capping U.S. recreational marlin landings at 250 fish in aggregate and establishing observer coverage of U.S. billfish tournaments. The 2002 recommendation also provided for consideration by ICCAT of a program to improve marlin catch data in 2003 and an assessment in 2005.

1.3 Summary of HMS Actions Published in the Federal Register During 2002

During calendar year 2002, NOAA Fisheries' HMS Division completed a total of seven final rules, five proposed rules, eight in-season actions, three emergency rules, 16 notices of meetings, notices of document availability, and/or requests for comments, one notice of petition for rule making, and three corrections (two from the Office of the Federal Register and one from HMS Division) that

were published in the Federal Register. Table 1.1 provides a list of all Federal Register notices filed during 2002 relating to specific actions taken by the HMS Division. All required analytical documents (*e.g.* environmental assessments, environmental impact statements, regulatory impact reviews, etc.) accompanied these actions and are available upon request.

Table 1.1. Summary of NOAA Fisheries' HMS Division Actions

Action Type NOAA Fisheries ID#	CFR Part*	Action Description	Action Pub Info
Correction by OFR to ID 032900A; RIN 0648-AN06 (see 2001 table)	635	Atlantic HMS; ICCAT Monitoring of Rec. Landings (Billfish and Swordfish) Change of CPE date from 2/25 to 2/19	67 FR 629, 01/04/2002
Notice ID 121901A	635*	M-S Act Provisions; Atl. HMS. Issuance of 2002 EFPs and SRPs. Request Comments	67 FR 1442, 01/11/2002
Emergency (Final) Rule ID 060401B; RIN 0648-AP31	635	Atlantic HMS; Pelagic Longline Fishery; Sea Turtle Protection Measures. Extension Expiration Date and Tech Amendments	67 FR 1668, 01/14/2002
Final Rule ID 041901A; RIN 0648-AP21	600 635 648	Atlantic HMS; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Shark Finning Prohibition	67 FR 6194, 02/11/2002
Notice (Not initiated by HMS) ID 021202B	635*	ICCAT Spring Species Working Group; Notice of Public Meeting	67 FR 7358, 02/19/2002
Correction by HMS to ID 110501B; RIN 0648-AP70 (see 2001 table)	635	Atlantic HMS; Commercial Shark Management Measures. Fishing Season Notification. Correction to DATES section	67 FR 8211, 02/22/2002
Notice ID 030602F	635*	Notification of Advisory Panel meetings	67 FR 1297, 03/20/2002
Notice of Availability (NOA) (Not initiated by HMS) EPA Publication		NOA of Environmental Impact Statement Reg. Adjustment 2 to HMS FMP	67 FR 16375, 04/05/2002
Proposed Rule ID 080901B; RIN 0648-AP49	635	Atlantic HMS; Pelagic Longline Fishery; Shark Gillnet Fishery; Sea Turtle and Whale Protection - Implement BO Measures	67 FR 17349, 04/10/2002
Proposed Rule ID 071299C; RIN 0648-AM91	635	Atlantic HMS; Fishing Vessel Permits; Charter Boat Operations	67 FR 20716, 04/26/2002
Proposed Rule Section ID 042202D	635	Notification of combined hearings on preceding two rules: 080901B and 071299C; Extension comment period on 080901B	67 FR 20944, 04/29/2002

Correction by OFR to ID 071299C; RIN 0648-AM91	635	Atlantic HMS; Fishing Vessel Permits; Charter Boat Operations Change of CPE date from 5/28 to 5/23	67 FR 22165, 05/02/2002
Notice ID 050102F	635*	M-S Act Provisions; Atlantic HMS; Exempted Fishing Permits; Request for Comments	67 FR 34675, 05/15/2002
Notice ID 051002B	635	Notice of availability large coastal shark assessment modeling paper; request for comments; announcement of large coastal shark assessment workshop.	67 FR 36858, 05/28/2002
Emergency (Final) Rule ID 110501B; RIN0648-AP70	635	Atlantic HMS; Commercial Shark Mgmt. Extension of expiration date; request for comments; fishing season notification	67 FR 37354, 05/29/2002
Notice of Availability (NOA) (Not initiated by HMS) EPA Publication		NOA of Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Reg. Adjustment 2 to HMS FMP. EPA Granted 7-day waiver.	67 FR 39383, 06/07/2002
Final rule in-season action ID 053102B	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. Bluefin Tuna Rec. Fishery. Retention limit adjustments	67 FR 39869, 06/11/2002
Proposed rule ID 042602F; RIN0648-AP90	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT. Initial 2002 quota specs and General category effort controls; public hearings; request for comments	67 FR 43266, 06/27/2002
Notice of Availability (NOA) (Not initiated by HMS) EPA Publication		NOA of EPA Comments on Final Environmental Impact Statement Reg. Adjustment 2 to HMS FMP	67 FR 43595, 06/28/2002
Final Rule ID 080901B; RIN0648-AP49	635	Atlantic HMS; Pelagic Longline Fishery; Shark Gillnet Fishery; Sea Turtle and Whale Protection Measures	67 FR 45393, 07/09/2001
Final Rule In-season Action ID 071202D	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT. Adjustment of General category daily retention limit	67 FR 47470, 07/19/2002
Notice ID 081202D	635*	Atl. HMS; Advisory Panels Request for Nominations	67 FR 54169, 08/21/2002
Final Rule In-season Action ID 083002D	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT. Adjustment of General category daily retention limit	67 FR 56934, 09/06/2002
Final Rule In-season Action ID 091302A	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT. Adjustment of General category daily retention limit	67 FR 59477, 09/23/2002
Final Rule ID 042602F; RIN0648-AP90	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT. Initial 2002 quota specs and General category effort controls	67 FR 61437, 10/01/2002
Final Rule In-season Action ID100702A	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT; Quota transfers; General category daily retention limit adjustment.	67 FR 63854, 10/16/02

Notice of Availability ID 100102B	635*	Stock Assessment of Large Coastal Sharks in the US Atlantic and Gulf	67 FR 64098, 10/17/02
Final Rule Technical Amendment ID 091002I; RIN0648-AP89	635	Atl. HMS; NOAA Information Collection Requirements; Technical Amendment	67 FR 64311, 10/18/02
Notice ID 101702A	635*	Large Pelagics Survey; Proposed Information Collection; Req. Comments	67 FR 64873, 10/22/02
Final Rule; In-season Action ID 102202A	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT General category closure	67 FR 66072, 10/30/02
Final Rule; In-season Action ID 110102E	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT Opening of General Category New York Bight Set-aside Fishery	67 FR 68045, 11/08/02
Notice of Intent (NOI) ID 103102B	635	Atl. HMS; Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Amendment 1 to the FMP for Atl. Tunas, Swordfish and Sharks	67 FR 69180, 11/15/02
Notice ID 110102J	635	Atl. HMS; BFT Petition for Rulemaking	67 FR 69502, 11/18/02
Notice ID 102902A	635*	Atl. HMS; Notification of Advisory Panel Meetings	67 FR 69507, 11/18/02
Notice ID 111302B	635*	Vessel Monitoring System; Proposed Information Collection; Req. Comments	67 FR 69506, 11/18/02
Final Rule ID 010201A; RIN 0648-A093	635	Atl. HMS; Quotas and Fishing Areas; Trade Monitoring	67 FR 70023, 11/20/02
Final Rule; In-season Action ID 112202D	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT; Quota Transfers; Fishery Reopening	67 FR 71487, 12/02/02
Proposed Rule ID031501A; RIN 0648-A079	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT; Exempted Fishing Activities	67 FR 72629, 12/06/02
Final Rule; In-season Action ID 121202A	635	Atl. HMS; Atl. BFT; General Category Closure	67 FR 77433, 12/18/02
Final Rule ID 071299C; RIN0648-AM91	635	Atl. HMS; Fishing Vessel Permits; Charter Boat Operations	67 FR 77434, 12/18/02
Notice ID 120302A	635*	Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Atl. HMS; Exempted Fishing and Scientific Research Permits	67 FR 77752, 12/19/02
Proposed Rule ID 110200D; RIN 0648-0A75	635	Atl. HMS; Incidental Catch Requirements of BFT	67 FR 78404, 12/24/02

Emergency Rule ID 120902A; RIN 0648-AQ39	635	Atl. HMS; Commercial Shark Management Measures	67 FR 78999, 12/27/02
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* No CFR text but related to those regulations

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